



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, December 20, 2016

Electricity

Power Restoration Underway after Snowstorm Knocks Out Power to Nearly 30,000 BC Hydro Customers in British Columbia December 19

BC Hydro reported a storm producing snow, ice, and freezing rain knocked out power to at nearly 30,000 customers in Lower Mainland, British Columbia on Monday. The utility said the majority of power outages were caused by tree branches, unable to bear the weight of the snow and ice, falling on powerlines. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Tuesday 7,886 customers remained without power.

<https://www.bchydro.com/power-outages/app/outage-list.html>

<https://twitter.com/bchydro>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/tens-of-thousands-of-bc-hydro-customers-without-power-in-b-c-s-lower-mainland-1.3902978>

Update: Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Unit in New Jersey at Full Power by December 20

On the morning of December 19 the unit had restarted and ramped up to 30 percent. The unit was shut from 45 percent on December 14 to repair the turbine control system located in the non-nuclear side of the plant.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

[http://www.exeloncorp.com/newsroom/oyster-creek-generating-station-offline-\(3\)](http://www.exeloncorp.com/newsroom/oyster-creek-generating-station-offline-(3))

PECO Completes Construction of New Marcus Hook Substation in Pennsylvania

PECO recently completed construction of a new \$32 million electric distribution substation to support increased demand and future growth in the Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania area. The project, which began in August 2015, included the installation of fiber-optic current transformers and diagnostic systems that process real-time analysis of transformers, circuit breakers, and battery systems. In addition, thermal imaging is used to identify potential issues before they occur by recording temperature variations within a piece of equipment while in operation, the company said. Based in Philadelphia, PECO is an electric and natural gas utility subsidiary of Exelon Corporation serving 1.6 million electric and more than 511,000 natural gas customers in southeastern Pennsylvania. In 2015 PECO delivered 86.9 billion cubic feet of natural gas and 38 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity.

[https://www.peco.com/News/Pages/Press%20Releases/PECOCompletes\\$32MillionSubstationinMarcusHooktoSupportIncreasedDemandandFutureGrowth12192016.aspx](https://www.peco.com/News/Pages/Press%20Releases/PECOCompletes$32MillionSubstationinMarcusHooktoSupportIncreasedDemandandFutureGrowth12192016.aspx)

Petroleum

Update: True Companies Recovers 1,805 Barrels from North Dakota Creek Following Crude Oil Spill from Its 24,000 b/d Belle Fourche Pipeline December 5

True Companies on Tuesday said cleanup crews have now recovered about 1,805 barrels of crude oil that spilled into the Ash Coulee Creek in North Dakota from its Belle Fourche Pipeline on December 5. The company previously reported about 1,250 barrels were recovered by December 15. Officials with the North Dakota Department of Health estimated a total of 4,200 barrels of crude leaked from the 6-inch pipeline, with about 3,100 barrels entering the Ash Coulee Creek that feeds into the Little Missouri River. A company spokeswoman said the remaining 1,100 barrels entered the soil uphill from the creek and have not been recovered. The cause of the leak is still unknown, but the leak has been contained to prevent oil from flowing into the Little Missouri River, which feeds the Missouri River.

Reuters, 11:15 December 20, 2016

<https://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/docs/eads/ead121516.pdf>

ExxonMobil Reports Flare Gas Recovery Unit Shut at Its 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery December 20

ExxonMobil reported the flare gas recovery unit at its Joliet, Illinois refinery was shut on December 20, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. ExxonMobil said the unit would be brought back online. Reuters, 4:13 December 20, 2016

Update: HCU Restart at Valero's 125,000 b/d Meraux, Louisiana Refinery Delayed Due to Heat Exchanger Repairs – Sources

Sources familiar with plant operations at Valero Energy Corp's Meraux, Louisiana refinery said a delay in receiving replacement parts needed to repair a heat exchanger postponed the return of the hydrocracking unit (HCU) by 10 days. The HCU was originally expected to restart by December 9 after shutting on November 29. Energy industry intelligence service Genscape said Valero began restarting the 55,000 b/d HCU on Monday. Reuters, 12:09 December 20, 2016

Valero Reports Equipment Trip at Its 168,000 b/d Mckee, Texas Refinery December 19

Valero Energy Corp reported multiple instrument transmitters malfunctioned at its Mckee, Texas refinery due to sub-zero temperatures, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Valero said during a subsequent start-up, the refinery experienced excess opacity which exceeded the reportable quantity. Reuters, 8:52 December 20, 2016

Citgo Reports Flaring at Its 157,500 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 19

Citgo Petroleum Corp reported operating conditions at the east plant of its Corpus Christi, Texas refinery led to flaring on December 19, according to a community alert message. Citgo did not identify the unit involved in the incident. Reuters, 22:26 December 19, 2016

Shell Reports Stable Operations at Its 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery after Brief Power Outage December 19

Royal Dutch Shell said operations were stable at its Martinez, California refinery after a brief power outage Monday afternoon, according to a filing with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. The company did not identify the units involved in the incident, nor confirm any production impact. There were no injuries or evacuations as a result of the outage and the cause was under investigation. The Contra Costa Health Services issued a temporary notice on Monday to avoid the area around the Martinez refinery due to reports of odors. Reuters, 20:56 December 19, 2016

SemGroup, NGL Energy Partners Announce Glass Mountain Pipeline STACK Extension in Oklahoma December 19

SemGroup Corporation and NGL Energy Partners LP on Monday announced that Glass Mountain Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture between the two companies, will construct a 44-mile extension of the 215-mile Glass Mountain Pipeline system in Oklahoma to enable crude oil deliveries from north-central Oklahoma's STACK resource play to the Cushing, Oklahoma oil storage hub. The extension is expected to be in service during the fourth quarter of 2017, pending the timely acquisition of right-of-way and the satisfaction of all necessary regulatory requirements. <http://ir.semgroupcorp.com/press-releases/press-release-details/2016/SemGroup-and-NGL-Energy-Partners-LP-Announce-Glass-Mountain-Pipeline-STACK-Extension/default.aspx>

Natural Gas

Update: SoCalGas Lifts Natural Gas Conservation Advisory as Cold Weather Moderates in Southern California December 20

Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) lifted its natural gas conservation advisory on Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. PST, which was declared Sunday night following colder than normal temperatures across the Southwestern United States and its Southern California service territory. SoCalGas' distribution system remains constrained following the massive leak that restricted operations at its 86 Bcf Aliso Canyon storage facility, which is normally used to meet peak demand periods. The advisory urged core customers to limit residential gas use and warned that noncore customers (large commercial and industrial customers, including electric generation plants and petroleum refineries) may receive a notice to curtail service, though no curtailments were necessary. A SoCalGas spokesman said again on Tuesday that the utility did not pull any gas from Aliso Canyon during the advisory. Gas demand hit 3.6 Bcf on Monday, with nearly 3.0 Bcf supply by interstate pipelines and 0.6 Bcf from the other three storage sites operated by SoCalGas. Demand was expected to dip to 3.4 Bcf on Tuesday as the weather moderates with 3.0 Bcf supplied by pipeline and 0.4 Bcf from storage.

https://www.socalgas.com/advisory?utm_source=IBMMailing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign

Reuters, 15:39 December 20, 2016

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Libya's Oil Pipelines Reopen, Production Expected to Increase by 270,000 b/d in 3 Months – NOC

Libya's National Oil Corporation (NOC) said on Tuesday that pipelines leading from the western fields of Sharara and El Feel had been reopened after a two-year blockade, paving the way for a major boost in crude oil production from the fields. The NOC said it expects to add 175,000 b/d to national production in the next month, and 270,000 b/d over the next three months. Libya's oil production has been hit by conflict and political disputes over the past three years. National output recently doubled to 600,000 b/d but remains far below the more than 1.6 million b/d the country was producing before the 2011 uprising.

Reuters, 11:53 December 20, 2016

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 20, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	52.17	52.94	34.59
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.52	3.57	1.75

Source: Reuters

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM ET every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. ET. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov